

14th District Agricultural Association

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY FAIR

Established 1885



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board of Directors' Meeting

2601 East Lake Avenue, Watsonville, CA

Tuesday, July 24, 2018

The Board Room

Approved by: _____

Date: _____

CALL TO ORDER: 1:33 PM by President Stephanie Fontana

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Stephanie Fontana, President; Don Dietrich, Vice President, Loretta Estrada, Director; Jody Belgard, Director; Bill Barton, Director; Tony Campos, Director; Lupe Flores, Director; MariaElena de la Garza, Director; Michael Pruger, Director.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: none

DIRECTORS EXCUSED: none

GENERAL MANAGER (GM): Dave Kegebein

RECORDING SECRETARY: Bonita Monarque

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Eric Zamost stated the minutes, contracts, financials, and consent agenda were not posted on the website.

DIRECTOR COMMENTS: Director Dietrich stated he received many compliments regarding the fair's well-kept grounds. He appreciates the work of the maintenance crew.

CONSENT CALENDAR: The motion made by Director Dietrich, and second by Bill Barton, to approve the minutes and contracts was retracted due to the minutes not being posted for public review. The minutes and contracts will be voted on during the August meeting.

FINANCIALS: GM stated the fairground's cash balance is \$172K. GM is working on the documents necessary to get the line of credit in place. Current year-to-date income (through June 30, 2018) was approximately \$483K. Last year, during the same period income was approximately \$405K and expenses were approximately \$604K. The 2018 expenses (through June 30) were 602K. Director Dietrich asked about Jr. Livestock's lower cash balance. GM stated the decrease in cash was due to repairs and improvements.

MANAGER'S REPORT- Operations & Projects Update. GM provided update on status of the Fire Pump Engine. Approval was received for a small grant (\$13K). The overall cost of the project is \$90K, but estimated at \$60K. A request from the Foundation for additional funds will be made. Water System-Tank Project, Pipeline beyond Day Care Center: GM stated the first tank is full of water. There have been problems with the water pipeline system near the daycare facility. There was a broken riser that went

unnoticed and water pressure was diminishing. Significant repairs were made. The second tank should be completed at the end of August. The old tanks will be removed. Rental Events – Current & Future: The fairgrounds have been busy. There was a large horse show this past weekend and a two-day race. All buildings were rented. Permitting to host future cannabis events: GM stated the new State laws have allowed local jurisdictions to control their own cannabis event permitting (per the State of California, Cannabis events can only be held at fairgrounds). In Santa Cruz County there is a person responsible for cannabis licensing and must approve the events before a permit is issued by the State. A county supervisor expressed concerns regarding the fairground's proposed cannabis event because a non-local entity would be hosting the event. The Directors were asked for their opinions regarding holding cannabis events at the fairgrounds. The Directors supported holding cannabis events, providing required regulations and guidelines were followed. Including local vendors was also suggested. They agreed a cannabis event could generate significant revenue. Director Dietrich and Pruger volunteered to serve on a committee to work with the County Board of Supervisors to obtain support for the fairground's proposed event.

OLD BUSINESS – Review & adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for AHP Living History Farm – prepared by Stephanie Strelow of DUDEC.. Discussed the Summary of Public Comments and Responses. She noted all construction projects are subject to the California Building Code (CBC) and the California Fairs Financing Authority (CFFA) or the Department of General Services (DGS). GM stated that fairgrounds will be working with CFFA. John Kegebein stated AHP has a grant, but prior to moving forward, they need the Board's approval.

Director Campos moved, Director Estrada seconded, to Adopt the Resolution Adopting Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Agricultural History Project Expansion and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program. Motion carried 9-0. Ayes – Directors Fontana, Dietrich, Estrada, Belgard, Barton, Campos, Flores, de la Garza, Pruger.

NEW BUSINESS – none

CORRESPONDENCE – none.

REPORTS

1. Strategic Planning- Director Dietrich asked if the Board of Directors desired to have a public outreach campaign. Director Campos stated outreach was important. It was suggested that two Directors be selected to work on outreach. In addition to Director Dietrich, Director de la Garza agreed to assist, but stated staff support was needed. President Fontana said she can meet with the Committee to discuss next steps and staff support.
2. Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds Foundation Update – Jeannie Kegebein provided a summary of the Foundation's financials, Net proceeds year-to-date (June 30) are \$171K. \$269,200 has been contributed to the fairgrounds. Cash on hand is \$117K and the reserve account has a balance of \$46K. Invitations to a Board reunion, hosted by the Foundation, were distributed. The Foundation is also hosting an event on the Tuesday before the start of the fair. Attendees will be able to enjoy refreshments and see the exhibits. The Foundation will also be hosting a Foundation 500 hospitality tent (for donors who donated at least \$500) during the fair. Invitations will be coming. During this year's fair, there will be a combined information and Foundation booth and a scavenger hunt for the kids. The Foundation is seeking volunteer bartenders. Training, which is required by

Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC), will be held on September 5th. Jeannie will provide the Board with a list of Foundation events.

3. Rodgers House – Director Estrada distributed the committee’s minutes. She said she received inquiries regarding the status of the Foundation’s Heritage Hall restroom project.
4. Ag History Project- John Kegebein reported Don Haggerty, one of their founding members, passed away. John invited the Board to participate in the Parade of Champions which is held on Saturday during the fair (3:30 PM at the livestock area). The Parade of Champions showcases award winning fair participants. Director Fontana will create a flyer for the event.

NEXT MEETING

Next Regular Board Meeting is August 28, 2018. The November 27 meeting has been moved to December 11, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT: After a tour of the Creek Area the meeting adjourned at 4pm.